GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4941
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2002
INCLUSION OF NONIYA AND MALLAH CASTES IN SC LIST
RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to remove the Noniya and Mallah castes of Bihar from thecategory of most backward classes and put them in the category of Scheduled castes is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, whether these two castes have already been included in the List of Scheduled Castes in other States;

(c) if so, whether institutions for social studies have also sent their recommendations in this regard; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI S. B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a) Persently Nunia, Nonia (not Noniya) and Mallah (Surhia) are listed in theCentral List of Other Backward Classes in Bihar. Governemt of Bihar had recommended inclusion of Nonia community in the list of Scheduled Castes. As the proposal lacked requisite ethnographic details, it has been referred back to the State Government for furnishing such details. Governmentof Bihar , however, did not recommend inclusion of Mallah community in the list of Scheduled Castes.

(b) Mallah community has been specified as Scheduled Caste in West Bengal andDelhi and Nuniya (not Noniya) community has been specified as Scheduled Caste in West Bengal.

(c) & (d) Government of Bihar, based on the report of the Tribal Welfare Research Institute, Ranchi, had sent their recommendation for inclusion of Nonia community in the list of Scheduled Castes but since the proposal lacked requisite ethnographic details, the State Government has been requested to furnish such details for further examination of the proposal as per approved modalities.